

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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EUR/SE - MR. LEDSKY

S/PRS - MR. TRATTNER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, TU

SUBJECT: NOON BRIEFING -- VISIT TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER

FOLLOWING ARE PERTINENT PORTIONS NOON BRIEFING FEBRUARY 10
CONCERNING POSTPONEMENT OF TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S
WASHINGTON VISIT:

QUOTE: MR. FUNSETH: BECAUSE OF MRS. KISSINGER'S ILLNESS,
IT HAS BEEN AGREED TO POSTPONE FOREIGN MINISTER CAGLAYAN-
GIL'S SCHEDULED FEBRUARY 11-13 VISIT TO WASHINGTON. THIS
VISIT WILL BE RESCHEDULED AT THE EARLIEST MUTUALLY CON-
VENIENT DATE.

Q: WHEN WAS HE TO HAVE BEEN HERE? WHAT WAS THE SPAN?

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A: THE NEXT THREE DAYS.

Q: WHAT DOES MRS. KISSINGER'S ILLNESS HAVE TO DO WITH HIS BUSINESS VISIT?

A: BECAUSE I THINK IT IS VERY OBVIOUS THAT THE SECRETARY HAS BEEN TRYING TO SPEND AS MUCH TIME AS POSSIBLE WITH HIS WIFE, AND IT'S MADE HIS SCHEDULE VERY ABBREVIATED IN THESE DAYS DURING HER HOSPITALIZATION.

Q: CAN YOU BRING US UP TO DATE ON WHERE WE STAND ON THOSE NEGOTIATIONS?

A: THE TALKS HAVE CONTINUED IN ANKARA. AMBASSADOR MACOMBER HAS COME BACK ON CONSULTATION THIS WEEK. WE ARE TALKING TO HIM ABOUT IT. I DO NOT HAVE ANYTHING DEFINITIVE. AT LEAST, I AM NOT AWARE OF ANYTHING.

Q: IS MRS. KISSINGER ILLNESS STILL THE REASON FOR THE POSTPONEMENT OF THIS VISIT?

A: THAT IS THE REASON.

Q: ISN'T THE ARGENTINIAN FOREIGN MINISTER GOING TO MEET WITH HIM?

A: THAT IS JUST LUNCH TOMORROW. THIS WAS A VISIT OVER SEVERAL DAYS.

Q: WHO SUGGESTED THAT MR. CAGLAYANGIL NOT COME?

A: I THINK IT WAS SORT OF MUTUALLY --

Q: YOU MEAN THE TURKS SAID THAT "IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT MRS. KISSINGER IS ILL, WOULD YOU LIKE US TO POSTPONE HIS VISIT?" IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?

A: I THINK THERE WERE SORT OF MUTUAL EXCHANGES ON THE WHOLE SUBJECT.

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Q: WHEN WAS THIS DONE?

A: I DID NOT KNOW ABOUT IT YESTERDAY, SO OBVIOUSLY THE DECISION WAS MADE ABOUT THAT TIME.

Q: MIGHT THE LATIN AMERICAN TRIP BE POSTPONED FOR THE SAME REASON?

A: NO. THE SECRETARY IS STILL PLANNING TO LEAVE ON SCHEDULE.

Q: CAN YOU TELL US WHAT MRS. KISSINGER'S ILLNESS HAS DONE TO THE SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE APART FROM THIS? HAS IT CAUSED ANY POSTPONEMENTS OR DELAYS OTHERWISE?

A: I THINK YOU CAN SEE THAT NORMALLY WHEN HE IS HERE IN WASHINGTON, HE PUTS IN AN 18-HOUR DAY. HE WAS IN BOSTON

OVER THE WEEKEND, SO HE WAS NOT SEEING PEOPLE. HE CAME DOWN THIS MORNING FROM BOSTON AND HE WAS UP THERE YESTERDAY, SO OBVIOUSLY HE DID NOT HAVE APPOINTMENTS ON THE HILL. HE IS STILL OF COURSE IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT AND STILL PERFORMING HIS OFFICIAL DUTIES WHILE HE IS IN BOSTON. OBVIOUSLY HE COULD NOT RECEIVE PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON WHILE HE WAS IN BOSTON.

Q: IS HE PLANNING TO BE OUT OF WASHINGTON FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS WEEK?

A: HE IS GOING TO BE GOING BACK AND FORTH.

Q: BUT ISN'T IT A FACT THAT SHE'S COMING OUT OF THE HOSPITAL TOMORROW MORNING? ARE YOU NOT AWARE OF THAT?

A: I AM NOT AWARE OF THAT. I WILL CHECK THAT. I HAD NOT RECEIVED A REPORT THIS MORNING ABOUT MRS. KISSINGER.

Q: YOU DID SAY EARLIER THAT THIS IS THE SOLE AND ONLY REASON FOR THE POSTPONEMENT OF MR. CAGLAYANGIL'S TRIP?

A: THAT IS RIGHT. BECAUSE OF MRS. KISSINGER'S ILLNESS,
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IT HAS BEEN AGREED TO POSTPONE THE VISIT.

Q: THE STATE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH IT?

A: THE REASON FOR THE POSTPONEMENT IS MRS.KISSINGER'S ILLNESS.

Q: AND THAT'S THE ONLY REASON?

A: RIGHT; AND IT WILL BE RESCHEDULED AT THE EARLIEST MUTUALLY CONVENIENT DATE.

Q: WHEN DO YOU ANTICIPATE THIS? DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHEN IT MIGHT BE?

A: OBVIOUSLY, IT WILL HAVE TO TAKE PLACE AFTER THE SECRETARY GETS BACK FROM LATIN AMERICA.

Q: HAD IT BEEN ANTICIPATED THAT ANY AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN REACHED DURING MR. CAGLAYANGIL'S VISIT HERE?

A: I HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THAT, NO.

Q: THE FACT THAT THE SOVIETS ARE ABOUT TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY YOU WOULD SAY -- WHAT -- HAS NO BEARING ON THIS POSTPONEMENT AT ALL?

A: THE REASON IS AS I STATED IT.

Q: I WISH YOU'D SAY WHETHER THAT HAS ANY BEARING.

A: NO. THE REASON IS MRS. KISSINGER'S ILLNESS.

Q: CAN I GO BACK TO TURKEY FOR A MOMENT? WHEN YOU SAY MRS. KISSINGER'S ILLNESS IS THE REASON, COULD YOU BE EXPLICIT AT LEAST TO THIS POINT? IS IT THAT THE SECRETARY COULD NOT PREPARE HIMSELF AS HE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO FOR THE TALKS OR THAT THE TALKS THEMSELVES, YOU KNOW, WOULD BE INTERRUPTED BY THE NECESSITY TO BE UNCLASSIFIED

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WITH HIS WIFE?

A: I THINK THE LATTER IS THE CASE. IT WAS A THREE-DAY VISIT. AND BECAUSE OF MRS. KISSINGER'S ILLNESS, AS WELL AS THE FACT THAT THE SECRETARY IS PREPARING FOR HIS VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA, IT SEEMED TO MAKE MORE SENSE TO RESCHEDULE IT WHEN THERE WOULD BE ADEQUATE TIME. UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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